GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1677
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2002
SILENT ERA FILMS IN PAKISTAN
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether prints of hundreds of silent era films went to Pakistan at the time of partition;

(b) if so, the estimated number of such films; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to get them back of India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (c): National Film Archive of India (NFAI) has informed that no factual information is available about the number of silent era films, which went to Pakistan at the time of partition. NFAI generally acquires films through the member archives of International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF), of which as per FIAF directory, Pakistan is not a member. However, NFAI taps various sources for acquisition of films of archival importance including all available silent and early talkie films.